

REMARKS

Overview

Claims 82-96, 139-150, 155 and 164-202 currently stand allowed.

The Examiner also responded in the prior Office Action as follows: rejected claims 72-75, 97-115, 117-119, 121-138, 151-154, and 156-161 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Bates et al.; and rejected claims 116, 120, 162, and 163 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bates et al. in view of Schmidt.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in the pending claims. While Applicants disagree that any of the pending claims are unpatentable over the cited prior art, Applicants have nonetheless canceled the rejected claims 72-75, 97-138, 151-154 and 156-163 without prejudice in order to expedite prosecution of the pending claims, and thus all of the remaining claims have been allowed by the Examiner.

Conclusion

As all of the pending claims have been indicated as being allowable, Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to timely allow all pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 694-4815.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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